

**Unconfirmed Minutes of the Fish & Game NZ, Southland Region Council meeting held at the Southland Fish and Game Offices, 17 Eye Street, Invercargill on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024, commencing at 6.30pm.**

**Present:**

Lindsay Withington (Chair)	
Dave Harris	Lyndon Norman via Zoom
Mike Hartstonge	Stevie-Rae Blair
David Linklater	Mike Turner

**In attendance:** Zane Moss (Manager)

Steve McCartney (Minutes).

**Members of the Public:** Rebecca Munro

**1 Welcome:**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.40pm and welcomed those in attendance.

The Chairman entered a motion to move the meeting to Public Excluded. Moved: D Harris. Seconded D Linklater.

**2 Apologies:**

Craig Horrell and Dave McGregor.

**Moved: M Turner. Seconded: D Linklater. Carried.**

**3 Declarations of Interest:**

The individual member declaration of conflicts of interest with any item on the agenda had been circulated to members before the start of the meeting. Any conflicts were noted by the Chairman.

**Moved: L Withington. Seconded: M Hartstonge. Carried.**

**4 Confirmation of Minutes.**

The minutes of the public meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024 were considered.

**Resolved D Linklater/D Harris: That the minutes of the public meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were taken as read and were a true and correct record, subject to amendment to Game Bird discussion notations. Carried.**

**Moved: L Norman. Seconded: D Harris. Carried**

Councillor Harris advised of negative feedback from the Athol Fishing club in respect of the beat signs. The manager responded by advising that F & G received positive feedback from anglers indicating satisfaction around access information. Staff worked with the club regarding suitable signage in order to satisfy both the club members and associated landowners.

## **5 Notices of Motion**

### **Health & Safety Report to 31st January 2024.**

The Council Health & Safety report for the period was attached to the agenda for consideration. All known hazards were listed in the Southland Health & Safety Plan.

The meeting was advised that the health and safety plan had been reviewed and that the H & S Plan is provided to external contract providers, feedback from whom indicates our plan is robust.

Resolved M Hartstonge/D Linklater: *That the Health and Safety Report to 31st January 2024, be received and accepted.* Carried.

### **Notices of Motion**

Draft Governance Code of conduct.

Resolved to accept. Moved D Harris. Seconded M Turner. Carried.

Draft Prevention of Bullying and Harassment Policy.

Resolved to accept. Moved M Hartstonge. Seconded D Linklater. Carried.

Draft Drug and Alcohol Policy.

Resolved to accept. Moved D Harris. Seconded D Linklater. Carried.

Draft Drug and Alcohol Procedure

Resolved to accept. Moved D Harris. Seconded D Linklater. Carried.

Organisational Strategy-Consideration of Southland adoption.

(Manager to amend to reflect Southland requirements and objectives and present to next meeting)

Resolved to accept. Moved D Harris. Seconded M Turner. Carried.

## **6. Staff Report**

The manager reported that the Black Swan count was good and there will be project work to support Black Swan harvest.

Southland Water and land Plan sediment removal. Work continuing. Zane has a meeting with our lawyer to discuss where to next.

Zane advised that he had been challenged in the media who had criticised F & G re opening of Waituna lagoon – often enough. Zane had responded.

Cr Harris advised of positive feedback in relation to signs on the lower Oreti River. Reflective of the work staff are putting in on the matter.

Wellbeing study. Zane advised Cohen putting in good work on this matter with interviews with anglers and hunters. Consideration being given to a introducing a wellbeing licence, the proceeds from which would go towards supporting at risk youth and others.

**Council's Information reports.**

Legal opinion re Good Employer obligations presented re process.

**Administration Reports**

Licence sales slightly behind target LEQ's (82% of target) No other issues raised.

**Resolved to accept. Moved D Harris. Seconded M Hartstonge**

**NZC items.**

No update since last report.

Cr Withington attended a chairs meeting regarding CF bids and the process undertaken. The Minister of Hunting and Fishing has conveyed the expectation that there will be no licence increase.

Cr Harris advised that the SFGC meeting dates will be the last Thursday of each odd month ie January March, May, July, September, and November. Start time to be 6pm.

**Resolved to accept. Moved D Harris. Seconded M Hartstonge**

**Items for next meeting**

Elections

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The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_